

Ecological Literary Heritage: Lessons from Classics for the Environmental Movement

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Abstract:

This paper explores the enlightenment significance of classic ecological literature works to the environmental protection movement. Through literature research and case analysis, three representative ecological literary works, “Silent Spring,” “Dune,” and “Call of the Wild,” were selected for in-depth analysis. The study found that these classic works express profound environmental protection values, reflect environmental problems such as chemical pollution, resource depletion, and wildlife protection, and reflect care for the ecosystem. Among them, “Silent Spring” reveals the harm of pesticides to the biological chain, “Dune” explores the relationship between resource exploitation and ecological protection, and “Call of the Wild” depicts the harmonious coexistence between man and nature. The environmental awareness shown in these works has important enlightenment for the contemporary environmental movement, arousing the public’s environmental awareness and providing reference for environmental protection actions and strategy formulation. The study believes that ecological literature contains rich environmental protection value, is the source of ideas for the environmental protection movement, and has a lasting impact on promoting the environmental protection process.

Keywords: classic ecological literature; environmental movement; Ecosystem care

1 Introduction

1.1 Research background and purpose

The rise of the environmental movement has been an important issue of global concern in recent decades, and it is largely a response to growing environmental problems. Global climate change, biodiversity loss, water pollution, and other issues have triggered people’s thinking about sustainable development and ecological balance. The urgency of these issues has prompted a broad environmental movement, from individuals to organizations, governments to transnational corporations, who are working tirelessly to promote environmental awareness and the implementation of environmental actions.

This environmental movement is not sudden. In this process, classic ecological literature plays an important role. These works may not have received enough attention in the era in which they were born. Still, their environmental messages and values may later develop into important environmental ideas and actions. By studying these classics, I will understand how past concerns about environmental issues have influenced contemporary environmental movements and awareness. More importantly, their influence did not stop in the field of literature but gradually permeated society, policy, and practical actions.

This paper aims to explore the enlightenment significance of classic ecological literature for the environmental movement. Through an in-depth analysis of iconic classics such as Silent Spring^[1], Dune, and The Call of the Wild, we explore the environmental issues, ecosystem care, and relationship between humans and nature reflected in these works. Furthermore, this paper studies how these works can enlighten the current environmental protection movement regarding environmental awareness inheritance, environmental action incentives, and awareness of environmental issues. This theme is hoped to raise awareness of ecological literature as a lasting influence and how it can play an important role in the environmental movement. It will also rethink the historical origins and way forward of environmental issues and provide useful thinking for a sustainable future.

1.2 Research methodology and paper structure

To deeply explore the enlightenment significance of classic ecological literature to the environmental protection movement, this paper adopts two research methods, literature review, and work analysis, to systematically reveal the environmental protection values, environmental issues, and care for ecosystems contained in these works.

In the literature review stage, through the collection, collation, and analysis of literature in related fields, we

can understand the rise of the environmental movement, its historical background, and its impact on a global scale. Through the comprehensive evaluation of relevant literature, the background of the environmental protection movement is introduced at the beginning of the paper, the significance and purpose of the research are clarified, and appropriate background support is provided for subsequent analysis.

In the analysis stage, three representative classic ecological literary works, *Silent Spring*, *Dune*, and *The Call of the Wild*, were selected and analyzed in depth. Each work will be a separate chapter exploring its main content, context, environmental issues, and ecosystem care. At this stage, we will focus on the work's plot, characters, symbols, and metaphors and peel back the cocoon from them to reveal the environmental implications.

Based on the in-depth analysis of the works, we will enter the fifth chapter to explore the enlightenment significance of classic works for the current environmental protection movement. This chapter will deeply analyze the value of these works in the contemporary environmental movement from different dimensions, such as environmental awareness inheritance, environmental action incentives, and environmental awareness. By contrasting and analyzing the environmental values in classic works with the challenges and needs of the real-world environmental movement, we will reveal how these works inspire and guide environmental efforts in contemporary society.

In summary, this paper will combine literature review and work analysis to explore the significance of classic ecological literature works for the environmental protection movement through their in-depth interpretation. The content of each chapter will be carried out from the aspects of environmental background, content of the work, reflection of environmental issues and enlightenment significance, etc., presenting readers with an in-depth and comprehensive research framework.

2 Ecological literature and the environmental movement

2.1 Concepts and development of ecological literature

As an interdisciplinary field of study, ecological literature aims to explore the relationship between humans and the natural environment and the representation and reflection of environmental problems in literature. Its rise originated in the second half of the 20th century when the literary community began to pay attention to and reflect on these issues as human awareness of environmental issues gradually deepened. The development and evolution of ecological literature are closely related to the rise of

the environmental movement, and the two influence each other to promote human thinking and action on the environment.

Ecological literature has shifted from focusing on environmental depictions and natural scenery to a deeper environmental awareness and ecological critique. This shift was particularly evident during the upsurge of the environmental movement in the 60s of the 20th century, when many writers began to express their concerns about environmental issues through literary works, calling for attention to environmental issues. Ecological literature not only focuses on the harmonious symbiosis between humans and nature but also reveals the impact of human activities on ecosystems and the consequences of environmental destruction.

His research scope covers various literary forms, including novels, poetry, essays, drama, and more. In these literary works, writers convey emotions about the environment and reflections on environmental protection issues by portraying natural landscapes, depicting animal and plant ecology, and presenting environmental changes [2]. Ecological literature is a theme in literary works and a medium for expressing environmental protection concepts and calling for environmental protection actions.

The significance of ecological literature is to arouse people's attention to environmental issues and promote the improvement of environmental awareness. Readers can gain a deeper understanding of the complexity and urgency of environmental issues through the plot and characters in literary works. At the same time, ecological literature also provides valuable intellectual resources for the environmental movement, inspiring people to think about environmental protection strategies and sustainable development from different perspectives.

2.2 The evolution and importance of the environmental movement

As a social movement, the environmental movement has become a global concern, with protecting and preserving the natural environment as its core goal. The evolution of this movement carries with it the deepening of human understanding of environmental issues and the increasingly urgent need for sustainable development in society.

The historical background of the environmental movement is rooted in the 20th century, especially in the second half of the 20th century; with the rapid development of industrialization and urbanization, environmental problems have become increasingly prominent [3]. The first environmental initiatives focused on controlling air and water pollution, and early environmental campaigns such as clean air and clean water paved the way for awareness

of environmental issues. Over time, the environmental movement has gradually expanded to a wider range of areas, including climate change, biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, etc.

The environmental movement has made remarkable achievements in promoting environmental protection. Environmental activities and the efforts of organizations have led to a series of important laws, regulations, and international agreements, such as the Clean Air Act, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Paris Agreement. To a certain extent, these measures have slowed down the deterioration of environmental problems and promoted the formulation and implementation of environmental policies. In addition, the environmental protection movement has also promoted the public's awareness of environmental protection at the social level, promoted the spread of environmental protection actions, and formed a strong social force.

3 A selection of classic ecological literature

3.1 Silent Spring

3.1.1 Introduction and Background of the Works

Silent Spring was written by American biologist Rachel Carson in 1962 and is considered a classic work of modern environmental literature^[4]. The book warns people about the potential harm of pesticides to the environment and human health with strong emotions and profound insights. In this book, Rachel Carson conducts in-depth research on the use of pesticides and their impact on ecosystems. She raises concerns about the environment and ecological balance^[5].

Regarding writing background, the widespread use of chemical pesticides in the late 1950s and early 1960s attracted public attention. At that time, people generally believed that pesticides were a tool for improving agricultural production and human quality of life but ignored their potential harm to the environment and ecosystems. Through in-depth investigation and scientific research, Rachel Carson found that pesticides kill pests, cause toxicity to non-target organisms, and even threaten human health by entering the food chain. She pointed out that this silent crisis may ultimately lead to the "silent spring," which means the disappearance of birds and other wildlife, causing damage to ecological balance^[6].

The *Silent Spring* has attracted widespread attention and controversy since its publication. It not only shocked readers, but also triggered reactions from the government and pesticide manufacturers. This book reveals the negative effects of chemical pesticides and triggers

profound thinking about environmental protection and ecological balance. Due to the book's influence, environmental awareness has been raised, and people have begun to re-examine the use of pesticides and environmental protection issues.

3.1.2 The environmental issues and care reflected in the works

In the work *Silent Spring*, Rachel Carson deeply reflects on her in-depth research and criticism of chemical pesticides and agricultural chemicals. Through vivid cases and scientific research, she reveals the potential harm of these chemicals to the environment and ecosystems, expressing her deep concern for environmental issues.

In the book, Carson describes a widely used pesticide, cypermethrin (DDT), and its harm to birds in the ecosystem. Although DDT was considered an efficient insecticide then, Carson revealed its potential hazards to the environment and organisms through in-depth research. DDT gradually accumulates in birds through the food chain after use in farmland. This is because herbivores, followed by carnivores ingest DDT in insect food, and ultimately accumulates at the top of the food chain - in birds. This has led to a continuous increase in DDT concentration in bird bodies, resulting in long-term toxic effects. Among them, the impact on bird eggshells is particularly severe. Carson points out in his book that DDT causes bird eggshells to become thinner, endangering bird reproduction. Due to the thinning of the eggshell, birds are prone to rupture during the hatching process, resulting in the inability of chicks to hatch successfully. This has had a huge impact on the reproduction of bird populations and may even lead to the extinction of certain bird populations^[7].

This case reveals the damage of chemical pesticides to ecosystems, especially their impact on the food chain. Due to the impact of pesticides on insects and other small organisms, herbivores and carnivores in the food chain are also affected, disrupting ecological balance. Through this case, Carson calls on people to realize that while pursuing agricultural production efficiency, they should also consider the stability of ecosystems and the maintenance of biodiversity. Through in-depth research and criticism of environmental issues, Rachel Carson emphasized the importance of environmental protection. She calls for people to reflect on the use of pesticides and advocate for more sustainable agricultural practices to protect the stability and biodiversity of ecosystems^[8]. This concern is reflected not only in the description of environmental issues in the book but also in her concern for future generations and her sense of responsibility towards humanity's treatment of nature^[9].

3.2 Dune

3.2.1 Introduction and Background of the Works

Dune is a science fiction novel created by American writer Frank Herbert and first published in 1965. This work has become a huge classic in science fiction literature, achieving widespread success in literature and having a profound impact on exploring environmental themes and the relationship between humans and nature.

Frank Herbert is a writer deeply influenced by philosophy and ecology. He was inspired by ecology and environmental philosophy when creating 'Dunes.' The book is set in the distant future and depicts the story of a desert planet^[10]. Water is an extremely scarce resource in this world, and people live in deserts between sand dunes. The novel reflects the protagonist's appreciation of natural resources and concern for the ecosystem by describing the story of protecting the ecological balance of a desert planet.

Sand Dunes holds an important position in science fiction literature. It not only won several important science fiction literature awards, such as the Hugo Award and Nebula Award but also became a bestseller and sparked a series of sequels. This work integrates environmental issues and ecological ideas into science fiction stories for the first time in literary creation, making them richer and more profound^[11]. Frank Herbert guides readers to contemplate the relationship between humans and the environment through the setting and plot in "Dunes." In his works, he conveyed the importance of protecting natural resources and maintaining ecological balance, as well as the possible consequences of unreasonable development and consumption of resources. These themes resonated widely at the time and laid the foundation for later literary creation on environmental protection themes.

3.2.2 The environmental issues and care reflected in the works

Sand Dunes, set against the backdrop of a desert planet, deeply reflects the relationship between resource development and environmental destruction and the consequences of natural resource abuse. The desert planet depicted in the novel is a resource-scarce environment where humans continuously exploit and exploit scarce water resources and spices, ultimately leading to the collapse of the ecosystem.

The natural ecosystem of desert planets is severely damaged in the novel. Humans use large-scale water resources to obtain rare spices, leading to a decrease in groundwater levels, impoverishment of land, and imbalance of ecosystems. This abuse and overexploitation have led to the collapse of ecological balance, gradually

turning the once-rich planet into a desert, disrupting the ecological chain, and causing serious biodiversity loss.

The plot in the work reflects a warning of the abuse of natural resources and emphasizes the importance of maintaining ecological balance. The novel suggests, through the collapse of the environment on desert planets, that shortsightedness and pursuit of interests in resource development may lead to long-term environmental problems. This echoes the environmental damage caused by some resource development activities in the real world, making readers more deeply aware of the urgency of protecting natural resources and ecological balance. Through the plot and setting in 'Dunes,' Frank Herbert conveys respect for natural resources and concern for ecological balance. He warns people that in pursuing resource development and benefits, long-term environmental consequences and ecosystem protection should be considered. The deep integration of environmental themes into science fiction novels provided a new perspective and way of thinking on environmental issues, which influenced the later creation of environmental literature.

3.3 The Call of the Wild

3.3.1 Introduction and Background of the Works

The Call of the Wild is a novel created by American writer Jack London and first published in 1903. This novel tells the story of a dog named Buck from the perspective of animals, transitioning from a domestic dog to an adventurous journey of survival in the wild^[12]. Through this story, London explores the adaptability of animals in natural environments, survival challenges, and their relationship with humans.

Jack London himself has a background of closeness to nature. He sought adventure during the gold rush in North America and experienced the test of survival in the Arctic region. These experiences sparked his strong interest in nature's mysteries and animals' nature. In 'The Call of the Wild,' London takes readers into the wild world from the perspective of animals, showcasing their resilience and adaptability in the face of harsh environments and human activities^[13].

This novel holds an important position in literary history, not only because of its unique narrative perspective but also because of its uniqueness in showcasing natural ecology and the animal world. Through Buck's adventure, London portrays the cruelty and beauty of nature while also reflecting human attitudes toward the development of natural resources and animals.

From the perspective of animals, London explores the relationship between humans and nature in "The Call of

the Wild.” This perspective emphasizes the impact of humans on nature and the challenges animals face in the wild ecosystem^[14]. This understanding of the ecosystem and attention to animal rights are reflected in the work.

3.3.2 The environmental issues and care reflected in the works

In the novel “The Call of the Wild,” the protagonist Buck is a pet dog originally favored in the family. Still, he is suddenly brought into the harsh wilderness environment, facing difficult survival challenges. When Buck first faced the wild environment, he felt unfamiliar and uneasy. He must learn to find food, establish shelters, and compete with other wild animals for food and territory. This process reveals the efforts made by animals in nature to survive. Buck gradually adapted to the wild environment, becoming more alert, alert, and powerful. This demonstrates the principle of survival of the fittest, where animals must constantly adapt to environmental changes to ensure their survival and reproduction. It also reveals the impact of human activities on the natural environment. The story depicts people’s exploitation of nature during the gold rush period^[15]. People cut down forests and hunt wild animals to obtain wealth, leading to environmental damage and ecosystem imbalance. This human activity has caused serious survival difficulties for wild animals, gradually reducing their habitats and disrupting their food chain.

This plot emphasizes the mutual relationship between humans and nature. Human behavior can profoundly impact the natural environment, and environmental changes can directly affect the survival and adaptability of animals. Through Buck’s experience in the novel, readers are reminded of human predatory behavior towards nature and how this behavior affects the survival and ecological balance of animals and plants.

The environmental themes in ‘The Call of the Wild’ have already attracted people’s attention at that time and still have important enlightening significance today. From the perspective of animals, the novel calls for people to pay more attention to the rights and living environment of animals and plants, recognize the interconnectedness between humans and nature, and actively participate in actions to protect ecosystems.

4 Reflection on Environmental Issues and Ecosystem Care

4.1 Environmental issues and care in ‘Silent Spring’

4.1.1 The impact of chemical pesticides on ecosystems

The classic work ‘Silent Spring’ deeply reveals the

enormous impact of chemical pesticides on ecosystems^[16]. Rachel Carson revealed the toxic effects of pesticides such as cypermethrin (DDT) on insects, birds, and other wildlife through their accumulation and transmission in the environment.

DDT and other pesticides are widely used in farmland; although they kill pests, they also accumulate through the food chain to high-level food consumers, such as birds. Carson specifically pointed out that pesticides affect birds, leading to reproductive problems such as the thinning of eggshells and the death of chicks. The toxic effects of this ecological chain profoundly impact the stability and health of ecosystems and may even lead to the extinction of certain species^[17].

4.1.2 Conservation of biodiversity and ecological balance

In “Silent Spring,” Carson emphasized the importance of protecting biodiversity and maintaining ecological balance. By revealing the potential hazards of pesticides, Carson warns people to focus on pest control and recognize the potential impact of pesticide use on the entire ecosystem. She emphasized that biodiversity is crucial for maintaining ecological balance, as various components of an ecosystem are interdependent, and the disappearance of a species may trigger a chain reaction^[18]. These issues reflect Carson’s profound concern for the ecosystem, and she believes that the impact of human activities on the environment must be carefully considered. The work calls for people to re-examine the use of chemical pesticides and explore more environmentally friendly agricultural practices to protect ecological balance and biodiversity. By analyzing the content of work A, “Silent Spring,” it can be seen that the author has deeply reflected on chemical pesticides and their impact on ecosystems. This inspires the contemporary environmental movement, triggering people’s thinking about agricultural practices, ecological balance, and biodiversity conservation.

4.2 Environmental Issues and Care in “Dunes”

4.2.1 Desertification and the collapse of the ecological environment

In the novel ‘Dunes’, Frank Herbert deeply portrays Desertification and the collapse of the ecological environment by depicting the scene of the desert planet Arakis. Analyze the ecosystem issues depicted in the work on desert planets, such as scarcity of water resources, barren land, and reduced vegetation. These issues have led to the disruption of ecological balance, the loss of biodiversity, and the deterioration of the entire planet’s

environment. The ecological collapse of desert planets is closely related to human activities. The exploitation and resource development of “spices” by humans to obtain rare spices have led to further deterioration of the environment. Environmental issues not only affect natural ecology but also hurt human society, causing people to face difficulties in survival and development.

4.2.2 Resource Development and Environmental Protection

In the novel, people engage in fierce resource competition to obtain rare “spices.” This reveals the conflict between resource development and environmental protection. Herbert explores the phenomenon of humans pursuing short-term economic benefits while neglecting environmental consequences through the plot in his works. When people pursue wealth and power, they often overlook the damage to the natural environment. This conflict has sparked profound reflection, as people must balance the relationship between short-term benefits and long-term sustainable development. At the same time, the work also presents a balance between resource development and environmental protection. The pursuit of “spices” by humans led to the collapse of the desert environment, but in the later stages of the novel, the protagonist and some humans began to pay attention to environmental protection and attempt to repair the desert. This reflects concern for environmental sustainability and emphasizes that resource development should consider ecological balance and long-term benefits.

4.3 Environmental issues and care in ‘The Call of the Wild’

4.3.1 Harmonious coexistence between humans and nature

In the novel “The Call of the Wild,” Jack London reveals the close connection and harmonious coexistence between humans and nature through the experience of the protagonist, Buck. Analyzing the plot in the work reflects human attitudes towards nature and their responsibility for the ecological environment^[19]. Buck was brought into the wild from a domestic environment and faced severe survival challenges. In the wild, he must learn to adapt to the natural environment and compete with other wild animals for food and territory. This reveals the efforts made by animals to survive in nature and emphasizes the close connection between humans and nature.

It also demonstrates humanity’s responsible attitude towards nature. As the story develops, Buck gradually establishes a deep emotional relationship with humans, reflecting the emotional bond between humans and animals. This concept of harmonious coexistence has

triggered people’s respect and protection of the natural environment, reflecting human concern for environmental issues.

4.3.2 Wildlife Ecology and Habitat Protection

The novel describes the survival challenges of wild animals in the natural environment and the impact of human activities on their habitats. When Buck survives in the wild, he must face competition from other wild animals, reflecting the competitive reality of animal survival in nature. At the same time, human activities have seriously impacted the living environment of wildlife, such as deforestation and habitat loss. This reminds people of the importance of protecting wildlife and their habitats and maintaining ecological balance^[20]. By analyzing the content of ‘The Call of the Wild,’ we can see the author’s concern for the harmonious coexistence between humans and nature and the ecological protection of wildlife. This also inspires environmental protection in reality, triggering people’s thinking about harmonious coexistence between humans and nature and protecting wildlife habitats.

5 The Enlightenment of Classic Works on the Current Environmental Protection Movement

5.1 Inheritance and continuation of environmental awareness

5.1.1 The Transmission of Environmental Values in Classic Works

These classic works convey strong environmental values, emphasizing respecting and protecting natural ecosystems and maintaining biodiversity. Silent Spring emphasizes the value of respecting and protecting ecosystems by revealing the harm chemical pesticides cause them. Sand Dunes balances resource development and environmental protection, arousing people’s understanding of ecological balance. The Call of the Wild emphasizes the close connection between humans and nature and promotes the values of harmonious coexistence. The values in these works have been continued in contemporary environmental movements, influencing people’s attitudes and behaviors towards nature.

5.1.2 The Enlightenment of Classic Works on Contemporary Environmental Education

Silent Spring, Sand Dunes, and The Call of the Wild all contain profound environmental education values. Through these works, people can gain a deeper understanding of the severity and impact of environmental issues and stimulate public attention and participation in environmental issues. Especially the close connection

between the protagonist and nature in the work can inspire contemporary environmental education, cultivate people's emotions toward nature, and thus, more actively participate in environmental action.

5.2 Incentives and Guidelines for Environmental Action

5.2.1 Reflection on Environmental Action in Classic Works

In the three works, the protagonists demonstrate positive environmental actions facing survival challenges, providing profound inspiration for brave action and overcoming difficulties in modern society. The perseverance, determination, and sense of responsibility these protagonists demonstrate in adversity inspire contemporary people to take positive action on environmental issues.

In 'Silent Spring,' Yingman Carson resolutely delves into the impact of chemical pesticides and bravely reveals these issues, triggering a wave of environmental protection movement. Her actions demonstrate how an individual can speak up for environmental issues through in-depth research and a firm stance. Similarly, in "Dunes," the protagonist protects the environment and resources of desert planets, providing a model for balancing resource development and environmental protection. The protagonists' actions demonstrate that individual efforts and determination are important driving forces for environmental action in the face of various challenges, setting an example for the environmental movement in contemporary society.

5.2.2 The Advocacy of Classical Works for Contemporary Environmental Protection Movement

The environmental advocacy and calls in these three works, such as suggestions for environmental policies and support from environmental organizations, provide positive references for the environmental movement in reality. These works encourage people to actively participate in environmental protection actions and advocate for governments and social organizations to take measures to protect the natural environment.

In 'Silent Spring,' Carson strongly advocates for people to re-examine the use of pesticides and their environmental impacts, and her call has attracted public attention and action. This indicates that individual voices and actions can guide society's attention to environmental issues. Similarly, in "Dunes," the depiction of resource development and environmental destruction has sounded an alarm and calls for people to reflect on the exploitation of nature. These voices are important for promoting the government and social organizations to

take environmental protection measures and formulate sustainable development policies.

5.3 Deepening and Expanding the Cognition of Environmental Issues

5.3.1 The Realistic Enlightenment of Classical Works on Contemporary Environmental Issues

The three works' environmental issues are closely related to contemporary environmental issues, providing profound practical insights. The environmental issues presented in these classic works, such as the impact of chemical pesticides on ecosystems, Desertification, resource depletion, and the loss of wildlife habitats, are similar to today's reality. By comparing these works, we can better understand the severity and urgency of current environmental issues.

For example, the long-term impact of chemical pesticides on ecosystems revealed in "Silent Spring" echoes the ecological problems caused by the use of pesticides in reality. Similarly, the resource development and environmental damage described in "Dunes" are closely related to the problem of resource depletion caused by excessive exploitation in contemporary society. These works remind us that environmental issues are not only the plot of fictional stories but also the practical challenges facing today's society, which require us to take them seriously and respond to them.

5.3.2 The impact and inspiration of classic works on environmental protection strategies

The environmental strategies proposed in the three works provide valuable guidance and inspiration for the current environmental movement. These strategies are plot elements in literary works and beneficial reflections on practical environmental actions.

In 'Silent Spring,' the emphasis on biodiversity conservation and ecological balance inspires us to pay more attention to the stability of ecosystems, not only for the protection of individual species but also for the balance of the entire ecological chain. Similarly, the conflict between resource development and environmental protection presented in "Dunes" prompts us to think about protecting natural resources and achieving sustainable development while meeting human needs.

By drawing on the environmental strategies from these classic works, we can formulate more targeted environmental policies and action plans to promote sustainable environmental development. Implementing these strategies helps solve contemporary environmental problems and provides useful experience for future environmental protection.

Overall, the practical significance and inspiration of

“Silent Spring,” “Dunes,” and “Call of the Wild” for contemporary environmental protection movements cannot be ignored. By deeply understanding and absorbing the viewpoints and strategies in these works, we can have a more comprehensive understanding of environmental issues and strive for a sustainable future.

6 Conclusion

6.1 The Importance of Ecological Literature Heritage

The environmental themes and values in classic works constitute the ecological literary heritage, which has important implications for contemporary environmental movements. Through in-depth analysis of works such as *Silent Spring*, ‘Sand Dunes’, and ‘The Sound of Wild,’ we have found that these classic works not only sparked attention to environmental issues in their era but also had a profound impact on the inheritance of environmental awareness, motivation for environmental action, and formulation of environmental strategies today. Ecological literature, as a lasting cultural heritage, conveys environmental protection concepts to readers through the power of literature, inspiring people to actively pay attention to and participate in environmental protection.

6.2 Realistic significance and prospects

The inspiration of classic works for the current environmental movement is obvious. They arouse people’s concern for nature at the emotional and ideological levels and provide valuable guidance in actions and strategies for environmental protection. However, we should also recognize that environmental issues have never stopped developing, and we need to continuously deepen our understanding of environmental issues and actively seek innovative solutions.

Future research on ecological literature shows promising prospects and will have profound impacts in multiple fields. This research direction will increasingly cross disciplinary boundaries and intersect with environmental science, sociology, and other fields, providing a more comprehensive perspective on environmental issues. With the evolution of environmental issues, exploring ecological literature will gradually expand to emerging topics such as climate change, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development. Ecological literature creation will also take on more diverse forms, extending from literary works to artistic fields such as movies, music, and painting, better reaching various social levels. These works will also become powerful tools for environmental education and cultivate the environmental awareness of the younger generation. Local environmental

issues will also receive more attention, helping people understand local ecological challenges and promoting community environmental action. With the integration of art and science, ecological literature will deepen people’s understanding of environmental issues and stimulate the driving force of social change. In the future, ecological literature research will be more active in promoting environmental values, guiding social actions, and promoting cultural inheritance.

In short, the classic works in the ecological literary heritage have significant significance in the past and present and will guide the direction of environmental protection for our future. By inheriting and developing ecological literary heritage, we can better understand the historical origins of the environmental movement, gain a deeper understanding of the urgency of environmental issues, and work together to build a better environmental future.

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